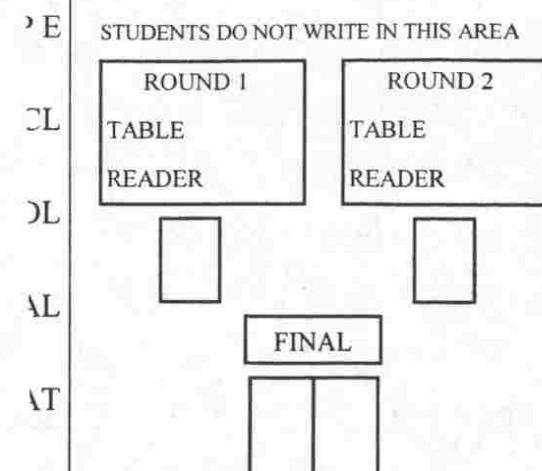


# Idaho 9th Grade Direct Writing Assessment

M.R.

929



Writing is an incredibly powerful thing. Stories and essays move people to change the world in ways they never thought possible. Many different types of writing - from children's books to news stories and biographies - can teach readers morals and ethics that never reached them before. In my life, one of the experiences that has taught me the most was reading a simple magazine article. The account of one man's life in this magazine changed the way I look at the world.

When I sat on my couch and picked up a magazine that day, I had no idea that what I was about to read would change my outlook on life. The particular story I decided to read was about a minor league baseball player. He had an abundance of natural talent, but he didn't want to put any time or effort into improving. Consequently, he was not very good, and ended up losing games. After one disappointing loss, a man that he looked up to very much talked to him. The man made him realize how much better he could be. It motivated him to give it everything he could. Now, he is a star in the major leagues, making millions of dollars. His rise to success taught me a lot about the value of hard work.

The profound effect this story had on me was like nothing I had ever experienced before. It taught me about the value of hard work and persistence, and immediately motivated me to try harder - not just in sports, but in school and life as well. After reading this exceptional

story, I wanted to be good at everything I did, and I realized this was within reach if I wanted to put in the effort to do so. Mainly, it showed me that natural ability alone isn't enough, that only hard work can put you where you want to be. The knowledge I gained from this was a very important lesson for me.

Learning this would help anyone, but I personally needed it at that point in my life. When I was younger, I was naturally talented at everything - sports, school and anything else. Because of this, I was satisfied with what I had and didn't see the value in working at it. After reading the article, all of that changed. I realized that if I tried harder and put more time and effort into activities, I could be more than mediocre. I started working harder, and all aspects of my life got better. This lesson was very valuable to me, and still affects me to this day.

Obviously, I am very glad I read that story. Not only did it teach a powerful lesson, but it was a lesson that I needed at that particular point in my life. This experience improved me dramatically. It inspired me to be my best and give all aspects of my life everything I possibly can. I never expected to learn as much as I did from a simple magazine article, but this piece of writing taught me something very important. I wish everyone could have the chance to learn the value of hard work the way I did. What I learned was incredible, and it will stay with me throughout my life.

MR 929